



## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Alabama Department of Public Health – Bureau of Clinical Laboratories • Director: Sharon P. Massingale, Ph.D., HCLD/CC

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# ATTENTION HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS



- Effective March 1, 2020, the Alabama Department of Public Health, Bureau of Clinical Laboratories' (BCL) Mycobacteriology (TB) Branch will deem non-sterile clinical specimens (sputum, urine, stools, wounds, etc.) unsatisfactory for testing if not received by the BCL within three (3) days of specimen collection date.
- Clinical isolates and concentrated specimens will continue to be accepted as usual.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends clinical specimens be received in the laboratory within 24 hours of specimen date of collection.
- To help meet the standards for these recommendations, the BCL suggests using the available couriers at the local health departments or shipping via FedEx overnight.

Contact the Mycobacteriology (TB) Branch or Stacey Hall at 334-260-3473 or email [altblab@adph.state.al.us](mailto:altblab@adph.state.al.us) if you have questions regarding this bulletin.

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